

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 5, Folder 3

April 18, 1932 -
October 21, 1938

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Office of the Solicitor General

Washington, D. C.

PDM-rf

April 18, 1932

Lieutenant Commander Richard W. Bates
Pacific Club
Honolulu, T. H.

Dear Dickie:

The Holiday Number of the "Paradise of the Pacific" arrived this morning, and I make haste to thank you for it and to express our gratification over the fact that you still remember us. I have not had time to go over the booklet carefully, but I have glanced hurriedly at its very beautiful pictures and have read the article on "Yachting in Hawaii" by one R. W. Bates. While I must confess that the ardent and glowing description of the "island paradise" contained in your article was somewhat inconsistent with your statements to me while I was in Honolulu, I nevertheless found the brief article very interesting, and find in it further evidence of your cosmopolitan tastes and abilities. I am sure Eloise will enjoy seeing the magazine.

I take it that these are busy days for you, with the Fortescue trial in full blast. Are you sitting in daily attendance upon the sessions? Once or twice I noticed your name in the local press accounts of the trial where you had been referred to in the testimony of some of the witnesses. The mainland is following the trial with a great deal of interest, and I must say that sympathy of the people over here is rather generally with the defendants, although contrary views are expressed now and then.

I just this moment received a copy of the first issue of the Star Bulletin published after the receipt in Honolulu of Richardson's report. I have not as yet had a chance to read it, but I am looking forward to the comments of the various people with a great deal of interest. The entire document will probably be

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printed this week, and I will mail you a copy as soon as we receive the printed documents.

Thanks again for sending the very attractive booklet.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Miller

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Office of the Solicitor General

Washington, D. C.

PDM:vb

April 23, 1932

Lt. Commander Richard W. Bates
Pacific Club
Honolulu
T. H.

Dear Dicky:

I enclose herewith a copy of Assistant Attorney General Richardson's report. Included therein as a subreport is the one which I wrote on Police Administration in the territory. It appears at pp. 59 to 103, inclusive. That is the only part of the document which is distinctly my own work, although I expected when I left Washington to write Richardson's report, but things did not work out that way.

Last night I glanced through with more care the illustrated booklet on Hawaii which you sent us recently. I found it very interesting and attractive, and we shall be glad to retain it as an additional memento of our exceedingly pleasant trip to your fair country.

I have been following the Fortescue trial with a great deal of interest. It seems pretty clear that at least three of the defendants will get off, and probably four. I must say that I think the trial is being handled very well by both the prosecution and the defense, although my impressions are based upon newspaper reports which may not be accurate.

Write me a letter and tell me all about the situation.

Eloise and Iris are fine.

Faithfully yours,

Paul D. Miller

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Office of the Solicitor General

Washington, D. C.

PDM:vb

November 30, 1932

Lt. Com. Richard Bates
U. S. S. Buchanan
Navy Yard
Mare Island, California

Dear Dicky:

Eloise and I were delighted to receive your long and interesting letter of last August, even though we have not been very swift to answer it. After chiding you about being slow in acknowledging your correspondence I am embarrassed to admit that I haven't been much prompter in my epistolary duties. But the fact remains that we were exceedingly pleased to receive your long letter, and we hope that you will repeat the performance in the not too distant future.

I enjoyed and was interested in your comments upon the Richardson report. While I am frank to admit that the report is not as perfect as it might have been (particularly the sections with which I had nothing to do!) you must remember that we had or thought we had a very short time to cover a tremendous amount of ground. As it turned out, no one was particularly eager to receive our report after we returned to the United States and we might well have tarried a few weeks longer and made a better job of it.

I think you are in error in suggesting "that the report in part attempted to protect political appointees." If that was the result I don't think it was so intended. As to Judge Christie, my work brought me in contact with him not at all and I must claim ignorance of that phase of the report.

I must accept, however, responsibility for the report on prohibition in the territory which you described as "colored." I don't think, however, it is a fair inference from what I said that there was not much drinking in the territory among the civilians.

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I think you are right in your comment that a main fault of the people of the territory was their failure to accept justified criticism of conditions in the islands. But as a result of the recommendations in the Richardson report and as a result of the filing of proposed bills for the establishment of the so-called commission form of Government in the territory, I think the people of the territory have finally been stirred from their lethargy, and I think that as a result conditions over there in the future will be better than they have been in the past. I am quite confident that the police organization has been very materially improved.

Your last days in Honolulu must have been exceedingly interesting. I would have enjoyed being there during the Fortescue trial. Governor Judd, Attorney General Hewitt and Kelly were in Washington a few weeks ago, and I had luncheon with them a couple of times. One of their alleged purposes in coming to the east was to receive the report of the Pinkerton Detective Agency, which, as you know, had been employed by Governor Judd to make an independent investigation into the Massie case. I expected to hear a lot of "dirt" but Hewitt and the Governor stated that the report had not been completed at the time they were here and therefore could not tell us about it. However I rather got the impression from Hewitt that the Pinkerton report left them just where they were when they started, with no more or no less proof as to the guilt or innocence of the alleged rapists.

Just a few days ago, while working in my office, I was surprised to receive a telephone call from Earle Anthony who was calling from New York City. It developed that he and his wife were in the east for a few weeks and the telephone call was just for the purpose of saying "hello." There is a bare chance that they may get to Washington before they return to California. The three Millers had been in New York just a couple of days before (I had to go there on a case) and it was only by accident that we didn't go to the same hotel where they were staying.

I wish very much that I might see you in command of your destroyer. Possibly when the overhauling at Mare Island is completed you will sail her around to the east coast? I take it you will be on the west

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coast pretty much of the time for the next two years or so. How do you like your present assignment as compared with the one which preceded it?

Thank you very much for your very generous and kind words about myself. They are not, of course, warranted by the facts but that does not make them any the less pleasant.

All of us are very well. Iris has had a cold or two but that has not prevented her from becoming even lovelier as the days go by. Now that she is able to walk around and climb up on anything, life around our house never has a chance to be dull. I have been kept busy with my work. I have two cases to argue in the Supreme Court in the December session and they will be enough to keep me rather engaged for that month. Our plans are somewhat indefinite.

While doubtless I could continue in Washington with the Democrats if I so desire, I do not want to stay longer with the Government. Life here is very pleasant and interesting but most good things eventually come to an end.

All of us send you our very best.

Faithfully yours,

Paul

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SUBMARINE SQUADRON FOUR
U. S. S. ARGONAUT, SQUADRON LEADER
Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

00-ts

22 July, 1933.

Lieutenant Commander R.W. Bates, USN,
U.S.S. BUCHANAN,
San Diego, California,

My dear Dick,

Some weeks ago I saw in the papers where you had been transferred from your command. I am wondering what the trouble was and whether you were tired of torpedo boating?

I since have seen a friend of yours - just whom I cannot now recall - and he told me that you had been ordered as Chief Engineer of a battleship, had objected, and as a result you went to the tanker. It is hard luck to lose your destroyer after such a short tour as commanding officer and I hope that there was nothing more than ordinary shifting around of personnel which was responsible for your change of duty.

Adm
Clark

Our old friend "Frank" certainly got kicked in the pants when the shifting of the high commands was made. He anticipated getting the fleet, so I understand, but something or other caused the change in the slate a month or two before it was put into effect. I have heard gossip as to why the change was made but you can never believe anything you hear these days regarding such matters. It is a cut-throat game, everybody is out to get the other fellow, and you don't know who will try to oust you from a job, or take your job away until you are actually in it.

Things are about the same here and nothing exiting has happened. At periodic intervals some fair damsel is taken for a walk with the usual results. A brief mention of the incident in the papers and that is the last anyone hears of it. Army and Navy personnel have their periodic "run-ins" with the authorities but nothing occurs that would cause any concern.

My family is still in Jamestown but I am hoping to have Mrs. Osterhaus out here in October.

Drop me a line and let me know how things are going and why you left the Buchanan.

Sincerely,


H.W. OSTERHAUS.

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In reply address not the signer of
this letter, but Bureau of Navigation,
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
Refer to No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

5 September, 1933.

Dear Rafe:

Your letter received. Am glad you had
such a satisfactory trip to China and return.

With respect to the new destroyers; you
have to be a commander to get one. Quite a few
lieutenant commanders have been trying to get
them, as well as commanders, but Captain Kidd says
nothing doing.

He intends leaving you where you are
for the present, so I should say you will have to
stay there until the June shift, though it wont
do any harm to submit an official request.

Am sorry I cannot give you more encouraging
news, but this is the best I can do at present.

Kay joins me in sending best.

Sincerely,



W. A. Hicks.

Lieut. Comdr. R.W. Bates, U.S.N.,
U.S.S. Ramapo,
c/o Postmaster
San Pedro, Calif.

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HONORARY COMMODORE
ARTHUR CURTISS JAMES
COMMODORE
MARION EPPLEY
VICE-COMMODORE
SNOWDEN A. FAHNESTOCK
REAR COMMODORE
HENRY HOWARD
CHAIRMAN OF BOARD
DR. HORACE P. BECK
SECRETARY
EDWARD C. GANZ
TREASURER
CHESTER H. MEDBERY



IDA LEWIS YACHT CLUB
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

August 24, 1934

Lt. Comdr. Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
In command of
U. S. S. Long

Dear Sir:

In behalf of Commodore Marion Eppley of
Ida Lewis Yacht Club, I am sending you the cup
won by the crew of the U. S. S. Long in the
whaleboat sailing race of date, August 18.

Commodore Eppley and the members of the
Ida Lewis Yacht Club hope that this cup may help
to inspire the boys of the U. S. S. Long to fu-
ture victories. With congratulations and best
wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Horace P. Beck
Chairman of Board
122 Touro Street

hpb:mab

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
GENERAL BOARD
WASHINGTON

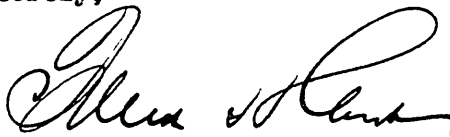
10 October 1934.

Dear Bates:

Thanks for the copy of the Outlook with the article by Wayne Palmer. At one time Mr. Palmer played around the membership of the General Board a good deal, but we have not seen him for a long time. His article is about the best he could do with the gossip he gets from all sources. Personally I didn't think it was very much.

Being a Division Commander is good for the soul. I think you ought to have more of it.

Sincerely,



Lieutenant Commander R. W. Bates, U.S. Navy,
U. S. S. LONG,
c/o Postmaster,
Guantanamo, Cuba.

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In reply refer to Initials
and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

AB

Op-20-T

16 February, 1935

Dear Bates:

As you know, I have orders as your relief in command of the LONG, and expect to report in accordance with my orders on 1 June, 1935. At that time, I understand that the LONG will be at Navy Yard, Mare Island, under overhaul (29 April to 2 July). I also understand that the ship will be in Rotating Reserve at San Diego between 1 April and 1 October, except during the overhaul period at Mare Island. Will you be good enough to keep me informed of any changes in dates and locations?

I am naturally interested in getting as much information about the LONG and Desbatfor as possible and will greatly appreciate any information you may send me or save for me until my arrival. I believe the present Executive Officer, Lieut. B. Connelly, is to remain. Believe there is to be a new Engineer from the P.G. School. As I have not served in a destroyer, will you please keep a list of suggestions for me on any matters which may be helpful? I had three years of gunboat duty (CLEVELAND) during and subsequent to the war, but otherwise have had no small ship duty. My last detail at sea was as First Lieutenant of the CINCINNATI.

Having been slated for the LONG for several months, I have appreciated seeing a couple of pictures of your ship - one in the New York Times, when you transitted the Canal, and an excellent one taken during the Fleet Review off New York, which appeared in the Naval Institute. I hope that the LONG will be as smart-appearing during my time in command.

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours sincerely,



E. E. Stone
Lieut. Comdr., U.S. Navy

Lieut. Comdr. R.W. Bates, USN
Commanding, USS LONG
San Diego, California

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IN REPLY ADDRESS COMMANDANT, NAVY
YARD, CAVITE, P. I., AND REFER TO
NO.

SIXTEENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE, NAVY YARD, CAVITE, P. I.

17 February
1938

My dear Bates,

I was terribly shocked and disappointed in not finding you among those selected for promotion and both Mrs Allen and I wish to express to you our deepest regrets. However, they have only one stroke on you and this time next year we hope you will bat out a home run.

We often think and speak of knowing you and the Ranapo being now here in port has recalled you to us.

I have greatly enjoyed my stay here and now that Mrs. Allen, after her serious knee injury last April, is able to get about again with the aid of a cane we find many most interesting things to do.

Admiral Uphaus has recommended that I command the Yangtze Patrol and I hope it goes through, for that will give us a chance to see something of China. Also that is a better and more attractive command

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than any other duty.

I am sending you herewith a rather formal letter which you may use as you wish and if you wish to send it to the next board or to make it part of your record please do so. I suggest a letter from Admiral Kalthoff and such a one from him will go a long way to putting you over next year. Please let me hear from you and be sure not to let this disappointment get you down in any way. Make it a point to get excellent reports during the present year and I see no reason why you should not make the grade next year.

With all best wishes and the best of luck.

Sincerely,

W. H. Allen

IN REPLY ADDRESS COMMANDANT, NAVY
YARD, CAVITE, P. I., AND REFER TO

No.

SIXTEENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE, NAVY YARD, CAVITE, P. I.

18 February 1935.

My dear Bates:--

I was distressed to note from the report of the Line Selection Board, which has just been received, that you were not among those recommended for promotion. Of course, being only an observer, not knowing the contents of the numerous records upon which the Board had to base its recommendations, and having the highest regard and respect for the splendid officers who composed the Board, I would not so far overstep the bounds of propriety as to question their judgment and wisdom. However, I had sincerely hoped that you would surely be among those selected and your being passed over in a real disappointment to me.

During the time you were in command of the BUCHANAN in the Squadron under my command the performance, general appearance, material upkeep, cleanliness and smartness of that vessel was such as to cause her to be known as one of outstanding efficiency in the Flotilla attached to the Battle Force. This condition was largely due to your leadership, loyalty, efficiency and great pride in your command, and it was a great source of

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satisfaction and pleasure to me to have the BUCHANAN in my organization.

I had nothing to do with making out your reports of fitness, for that was the prerogative of your Division Commander and something I left entirely to them, but had I had the opportunity to do so I would have stated that I considered you to be an officer of great promise, of outstanding ability, and one of the most efficient in the Squadron under my command.

It was with great regret to me that you were detached from the BUCHANAN to command the RAMAPO on the trip to China, and, as you may recall, upon your return and there being no vacancy for a command in the 2nd Squadron, I wrote to Captain I. C. Kidd, the Assistant Detail Officer in the Bureau of Navigation, and recommended you for command of one of the destroyers then building. In reply to this letter I recall that the answer was to the effect that Commanders were being assigned to command the new destroyers and that you would probably be reassigned, when a vacancy occurred, to one of the destroyers of the Battle Force. As a result you were sent to command the LONG. I tell you this to show that I again wished to have you under my command, and even now I would be delighted to have you with me in any capacity.

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You have another chance to be selected and at this time next year I hope to have the pleasure of sending you a message of congratulations on your promotion to which I consider, based on my association with you, you are fully qualified.

With all best wishes and hoping that this temporary setback will in no way dampen your enthusiasm and efficiency,

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. H. Allen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J. H. ALLEN.
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy.

Lieutenant Commander R. W. Bates, U.S. Navy,
U. S. S. LONG,
c/o Postmaster, San Diego, Calif.

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In reply address not the signer of
this letter, but Bureau of Navigation,
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
Refer to No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

21 February 1935

Dear Rafe,

I intended answering your letter before, but
the press of business has gotten the call instead.

I regret, deeply, Rafe, the result of the Se-
lection Board. Being recorder when one's close friends are
up is like standing on a river bank and watching a pal
drown without being able to lift a finger to save him.
Phil Weaver is another case. His is worse than yours -- up
in February and out in June. Rafe, I am truly sorry and
feel you should have been on that list. Next year, in my
opinion, you will be, so don't give up. The Riggs family
"in toto" are pulling for you.

is
I know being passed over/a tough blow to any-
body and there isn't much a friend can say to alleviate it.
If one can, I believe the best policy is to let it be water
under the dam with the idea of making it the next year.

Life here in Washington is very pleasant and it
seems time is slipping by awfully fast. We and all our
relatives enjoyed the Army-Navy game and your tickets were
much appreciated. They were under cover and occupied by
two elderly aunts, as it was pouring rain.

Captain Dutton is leaving to his new job at
Berlin very soon and we shall be sorry to see him go. Com-
mander Bidwell is his relief.

There isn't much gossip to tell. Bill Ludlow is
getting married to a swell girl in May and I am one of the
ushers to see it properly done. The wedding will be in
Syracuse.

Kathryn and Sonny join me in sending our best.
Please let me know if I can do anything for you at any time.

As ever,

Lt. Comdr. R.V. Bates, U.S.N.
U.S.S. LONG
San Diego, California

Ralph Riggs
#2

0661

In Reply
Refer To

UNITED STATES FLEET
DESTROYER DIVISION ELEVEN, BATTLE FORCE
U. S. S. SOUTHARD (207), Flagship

San Diego, California,
21 February, 1935.

My dear Admiral:-

Am very glad to see that you are getting this excellent command of Destroyers, Battle Force. Am sorry my cruise is up in this command. Would like to have the pleasure of serving under you again. If there is any thing Maude and I can do to pave the way for your arrival here please let us know. If we are still here would like to have you and Charlotte stay with us until you are settled.

R. W. Bates one of my Captains was passed over for selection to Commander. He has served me and the Navy most able and willingly and I am at a loss to know why he was passed over.

If you remember his case and feel at liberty to do so I would appreciate it if you could give me the reason for him not being selected. Admiral Hepburn and Captain Rowcliff are also at a loss to know the cause of him being passed over.

Bates is a most excellent officer and will make a strong effort to patch up any deficiencies in his record with the hopes of being selected next year.

With my best wishes for you and Charlotte. Please tell her that Maude will write her soon,

Very sincerely,

G. C. BARNES.

Rear Admiral C. H. Woodward, USA,
Navy General Board,
Navy Department,
Washington, D.C.

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Nahant and Olive Avenues,

Ross, California, Sunday, March 3, 1935.

Dear Bates,

About a week ago I went to Alameda and saw your Mother and father, and Norman. They were all well, but, naturally, distressed because you have not yet received the promotion we feel sure you have deserved. I believe you will get your promotion next year, and that this temporary check will have no material effect upon your career if you handle it properly. Meaning, (in my opinion), if you do not handle it at all; or talk about spilled milk.

Next year if the selection board makes it up to you, as well as they can, be prepared to say, (to yourself): -

"In the fell clutch of circumstance, I have not winced nor cried aloud". I have seen your letters to Norman and your parents; and those letters were all right except the part referring to yourself as the family black sheep. From other parts of those letters it is evident that you fully expected promotion, and believed yourself entitled to it. You cannot feel that way, and then really feel that you are any black sheep. Now if my advice is worth anything to you, and I think it will be worth much to you if you will follow it, - I advise you, with all the emphasis I can give it, - that you should not talk or write about this matter, but put it behind you, and look ahead; and go ahead, and succeed.

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No good can come from talking or thinking about it.

I asked an Admiral, who knows you slightly, or not at all, if he knew of any reason why you were not promoted?

He did not, and he asked his Aide, who is a classmate and friend of yours. His aide knew of no reason why you were not selected, and said he had only heard surprise expressed that you had been passed over.

My own opinion of you is that you are far above the average in character, ability and devotion to duty;— and that you will be promoted next year: unless you spoil your own good chances by giving the impression that you cannot take it on the chin.

Admiral Schopfield, I believe, was passed over once, or twice; and so have other Admirals been. It was a common report that Admiral Sims barely got his promotion. So you are in good company. And Lt. Chandler, in my opinion the ablest of them all, never did make the permanent Admiral's grade.

Matt Whitman says somewhere that nothing ever happens to us but it can be turned to good account.

If you had a fault or weakness which caused you not to be promoted it may have been over-confidence, or vanity. If this experience strengthens your weak points, without weakening your strong points, it may be worth all that it costs. "It is not given to mortals to command success, but they can do better: they can deserve it."

Sincerely yours, Stanford S. Moses

In reply address not the signer of
this letter, but Bureau of Navigation,
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
Refer to No.

WAH/Y

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

5 March, 1935.

Dear Rafe:-

Your letter of 28 February received.

I have taken up the matter of your coming to Washington with the other desk as you know, of course, that they have the sole say in your detail to duty. They state that the slate has long been filled in Operations and there are now no vacancies *there*, but that inasmuch as Engineering is very anxious to get you they will order you to Bureau of Engineering. I hope that this will not prove too disappointing to you, and if there is any chance of the slate being shifted later, I will take it up with them again about sending you to Operations.

Was certainly sorry to see that you were missed on the last Board, and was frankly very much astonished, *as I regarded you as one of those who were practically certain. Their passing you up is still very much of a mystery to me, and I was*
Best personal regards. *profoundly sorry that you were not in the list.*
Sincerely yours,

Spuds
W. A. Hicks.

Lieutenant Commander
R. W. Bates, U.S.N.,
Commanding, U.S.S. Long,
c/o Postmaster,
San Diego, Calif.

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F. Bascom Smith
230 Park Ave.,
New York City

March 8, 1935.

Dear Skeets:

When I came in from Bronxville on the 8:12 with Liquor Lewis I learned for the first time that the old Selection Board had gotten at its work. Congratulations and best wishes.

I am writing our old shipmate Mac to advise him to start worrying now as to whether or not he will be selected for Captain. I am going to get drinks out of both Spuds and Hoke in Washington next week, but so far as you are concerned it seems to me that by way of celebration you might write me a line and let me in on some of the hardships of being a Gunnery Officer and also when you are likely to get back to this part of the world. I would also like to know why they passed over Rafe Bates. Regardless of the reason why they did it, I think they're all wrong.

Mildred joins me in sending our best to you, Margaret, Bill and the young ladies.

Sincerely,

F. Bascom Smith

0 6 6 6

Office of the Captain of the Yard
Navy Yard, Mare Island, California

8 March, 1935-

My dear Dick -

This letter is a long delayed expression of what I feel was a great mistake of the selection board ~~for~~ Commanders. Of course you know how I feel - that I am for you - am terribly sorry you were passed over - and so I am not going to hand out any sympathy. I have talked with many who know you, classmates as well as others, and all are surprised. But such is life in the Navy! I had my job, coming after so many years - 37 - service made it pretty hard, but I have become so reconciled that I shall welcome the day when I retire. If it were not for the money, indeed I would have retired long ago. I can ~~not~~ look with favor upon this politics playing, back-biting and intrigue, that goes on. This back-biting and fear to express

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an opinion because of what may happen to you. It
is all mining • The morale of • The Navy and
breeding an organization those who only "listen
to his Master's Voice". So Dick don't get
down hearted, keep up your usual bugger
spirits - you are not married and have
a long happy, and I know prosperous future
before you. We are all well. Hugo is into the
Amer. - Hawaiian S.S.Co. and is now in China.
will be home in May. Mrs. O'Shaughnessy is very
well too and is coming back strong after
her operation of some 9 months ago. She
wants to be remembered and feels as I do.

I received a letter from the Secnav the other
day telling me that for "special meritorious service
in actual combat with the enemy" I would be
retired as a Rear Admiral! It is too laugh -

So long old scout, hope to see you some time
soon - better men than you have chewed bullets
before this - and there will be many to follow -

Always sincerely,

Stacy Wilson O'Shaughnessy

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NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

1935-7

27 March.

Dear Rabe,

To answer both your letters. I agree that you have little to gain by remaining at sea for another year in command of a destroyer. You have demonstrated your ability in that field to the complete satisfaction of all the seniors with whom you have been associated. I am very glad for you that you are not to remain on the Long in reserve. Three months on Mesbather Staff at this time must show the next Selection Board that you are persona grata to the high Command of the organization with which you have been associated for the major portion of this cruise. Also Admiral Hepburn's action regarding your fitness report should help. Admiral Kalbfus did the same thing for Shears last year when his flag was temporarily in the Borie.

I took your letters up to Admiral Kalbfus yesterday and discussed with him the best procedure regarding Allen's letter. After two experiences on the Selection Board, his reaction was to this effect. A separate letter (i.e. one not attached to a fitness report) carries some weight but not much with a Selection Board, especially in the case of an officer passed over by the previous board. It partakes a little of the character of a rally of friends and associates to the aid of the officer concerned after the event. Not that such letters are entirely disregarded. However they are not in the fitness report jacket but

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in a separate jacket for special letters affecting the officer. These letters can not carry the same weight as those made a part of an official fitness report.

Admiral Kalbfus therefore suggested that you write Allen with due appreciation and ask him if he would send an official letter to the Bureau of Navigation setting forth that you were ~~was~~ the squadron under his command from - to - but that your fitness report made out by the division commander did not pass through his hands (Allen's) for comment. That he knowing ~~the~~ from his own observation of your performance of duty during that time was forwarding as enclosure A his comments regarding your performance of duty during the time in question with the request that it be attached to your fitness report for that time. This will be the most effective procedure in Admiral Kalbfus opinion and needless to say it seems that way to me.

Admiral Kalbfus did not think that he should write a letter about you. He distinctly remembered you as one of his efficient "captains" and was perfectly willing to accept what I told him. However he says you were not directly under his observation as was Shears when we were on the Borie for 3 months and he has made it a rule not to make write letters unless the officer was directly under him or for some reason came very especially

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

to his attention so that he could write the letter at the time. He felt letters such as he could write now for you have practically no effect on the Selection Board. He said he wanted me to tell you of his regret that you had been passed this year, that he wishes you the best of luck next time, and that he remembers that your reputation was of a high order while under his command.

Helen and I would give a good deal to be barguing around the San Diego area right now with the friends you mention in your letter. In fact Helen is none too keen about New England winters or Newport, despite the fact that she is a down-Easter. However, I would not have wanted to miss this year in the Advanced Class. It has been interesting and most instructive and I believe of great professional benefit. Pye, as the Senior Member of the class, has been ideal. This is most important as the class has had, of necessity, to make its own way. Coming years, the class will tread broken ground and the service will owe Pye a ~~deep~~ a great debt for blazing the way in this new field of study.

Yes, I am delighted to stay next year as I am to be in charge of the section of Senior Strategy, which I think is going to hold tremendous interest for me. I can think of

0671

no job ashore for which I could be considered eligible at this time that I would prefer.

Hope, if your wanderings at any time include New England, you will not pass Newport by. The Theobald latch string is always out and after 1 June, when we get in our new quarters, there will always be room to care for our friends. Our present apartment has no spare bedrooms but June, we are taking a little house which has two extra rooms. Remember that after that date, the invitation is a standing one.

Always the Theobalds best.

As ever

R. A. Theobald

April 4, 1936.

Dear Rafe: -

Many thanks for your kind letter including the cable from Ted. It has been a tough year for all of us and both Margaret and I were very glad to see you pull through too. Nobody who has not seen through it can quite realize what it means.

I expect to get to Washington ~~some~~ ^{some} time in November when I get my yacht "Nokomis" up to Norfolk. Then maybe we can crack a bottle or two and discuss this whole affair properly.

Give my best to Charlie and Marion.

Sincerely

Ship.

0673

U.S.S. Astoria
23 April - 1935

Dear Rafe:-

I hope that you will believe me when I say I have rarely had a more difficult letter to write. It would be very much easier to say nothing at all, but I do want you to know how very badly I feel about your not being on the February list. To me it was one of those errors which selection boards seem to make every so often, and I'm frightfully sorry that it had to occur in your case. I'm sure that the next board will do what it can to correct the error.

With kindest personal
regards, I am,

Sincerely,

John McCrea

0674

COPY - HMA

Refer to
No. 9027-119
Nav-31-E

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

8274

4 June 1938.

From: The Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

To: ~~Commander~~
Richard W. Bates
Bureau of Engineering,
Navy Department.

Via: The Chief of the Bureau of Engineering.

Subject: Change of duty.

1. When directed by the Chief of the Bureau of Engineering in June, 1938 you will regard yourself detached from duty in the Bureau of Engineering and from such other duty as may have been assigned you; will proceed to the port in which the U.S.S. Clark may be and report to the senior officer present afloat for duty in command of that vessel.

2. You are hereby authorized to delay until 18 June, 1938 in reporting in obedience to these orders.

3. Keep the Bureau of Navigation and your new station advised of your address.

4. This delay will count as leave. Upon the commencement of the leave you will immediately inform this bureau of the exact date and upon the expiration thereof you will return the attached form, giving the dates of commencement and expiration.

/s/ Adolphus Andrews

Copy to:

Bu. Eng.
C.C., U.S.S. Clark.
Cdr. Dest., Battle Force.
Cdr., Battle Force.
Cdr., Dest. Squad. 3.
Cdr., Dest. Flotilla 1.

0675

First Endorsement

Bureau of Engineering
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

June 6, 1938.

1. Delivered.

/s/ H. G. Bowen
Chief of Bureau

Second Endorsement
Bureau of Engineering
Navy Department

6 June, 1938.

1. Received this date.

/s/ R. W. Bates,
Commander, US Navy.

Third Endorsement

JUN 11 1938

From: Bureau of Engineering.
To: Commander R. W. Bates, USN.

1. Detached this date.

/s/ H. G. Bowen
Chief of Bureau

Certified to be a true and accurate copy.

R. W. Bates

0676

JAN 2 1938

Brooks Brothers,

CLOTHING

Men's Furnishings, Hats & Shoes

OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT

OWEN WINSTON
VICE PRESIDENT

SPENCER GREASON
TREASURER

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MADISON AVE. COR. 44TH ST., NEW YORK



DIRECTORS

EUGENE E. MAPES
CHAIRMAN

WINTHROP H. BROOKS

OWEN WINSTON

WILLIAM B. HARDIN

HENRY SIMPSON

SPENCER GREASON

COURTLAND KELSEY

New York, October 21, 19 38.

Comdr. R. W. Bates,
U. S. S. Clark,
c/o Postmaster,
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Your letter has just been received and we thank you for the remittance enclosed.

16
12
-4

In regard to the shirts, we regret the difficulty you experienced and feel that the shrinkage should not have taken place. All of our materials are thoroughly preshrunk, but it is impossible to guarantee that a washable garment will never shrink because we cannot know what methods of laundering will be used. Boiling or other wrong treatment will shrink any such garment.

In any case we wish to protect your interests in the matter and if you will return the shirts to us, we shall do whatever is necessary without cost to you. This will be much better, we believe, than having any changes made locally. We have the materials, and of course the experience to do the work in the best possible manner.

We hope you will send the shirts, advising us by letter mailed separately when you do so. We shall give them immediate attention and ship them as you may direct.

Yours respectfully,

C.S.

BROOKS BROTHERS

BRANCH STORES

BOSTON
NEWBURY COR. BERKELEY STREET

1 WALL STREET
NEW YORK

0677

APR 2 1938

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